



## Influence of climatic factors on the medical attentions of dermatologic diseases in a hospital of Lima, Peru

**Author(s):** Gutierrez EL, Galarza C, Ramos W, Mendoza M, Smith ME, Ortega-Loayza AG  
**Year:** 2010  
**Journal:** Anais Brasileiros De Dermatologia. 85 (4): 461-468

### Abstract:

**BACKGROUND:** Significant associations have been described between climatic factors and human health, which can occur in dermatologic diseases too. **OBJECTIVE:** To determine the influence of the climatic factors on the medical attentions of dermatologic diseases in a general hospital in Lima (Peru). **PATIENTS and METHODS:** Observational study which was carried out in a national hospital between January 2004 and December 2007. The diagnoses were classified according to the ICD-10 system. The climate information was provided by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration from USA(NOAA). **RESULTS:** 3 294 patients were included in the study, the average age was 35.4 +/- 20.7 years old, and 53.2% were females. The "El Nino" phenomenon was associated with an increase in the prevalence of actinic keratosis (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.002), viral warts (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.001) and rosacea (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.014). The "La Nina" phenomenon was associated with a reduction in viral warts (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.026). Spring was associated with an increase of dermatitis (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.003), and summer was associated with an increase of benign neoplasms (pEuro Surveillance (Bulletin Europeen Sur Les Maladies Transmissibles; European Communicable Disease Bulletin)0.049). **CONCLUSION:** The climatic variations influenced the occurrence of certain dermatologic diseases. The present study may represent an orientation guide to specialists and general practitioners identifying the most common dermatologic diagnoses and thus enabling better preparation to treat these cases in determined seasons of the year.

**Source:** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20944906>

### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

## **Exposure :**

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

El Nino Southern Oscillation, Extreme Weather Event, Temperature

## **Geographic Feature:**

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

## **Geographic Location:**

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Central/South America

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Dermatological Effect

## **Medical Community Engagement:**

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

## **Population of Concern:**

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content